



SOLID | Sustainable Organic
and Low Input Dairying



Sustainable Organic and Low Input Dairying (SOLID)

European Project n° 266367

Project Co-ordinator
Project Administrator

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SOLID

- Total budget ~ 6 million euros
- 5 years (commenced 1st April 2011)
- 26 (24) partners (11 SMEs – (9))
- 10 countries



Context

- Knowledge based, competitive, profitable, environmentally sustainable and energy efficient farming systems (SCAR, 2008)
- Multi-functional potential of farm systems important
- Productivity, environmental, animal welfare, nutritional and profitability functions of low-input and organic farming increasingly recognised
- Constraints of these systems which limit potential



Known constraints

- **Farm**
 - availability and use of appropriate adapted breeds
 - availability and use of appropriate feeds (health and milk quality/quantity)
 - health and welfare challenges
 - financial and environmental efficiency
- **Sector**
 - volatile markets/price differentials
 - poor supply chain relationships/fragmentation
 - lack of appropriate decision support tools
- **Policy**
 - uncertain future policy support
 - methodologies for recognising multifunctionality potential of systems



SOLID

- To support developments and innovations in organic and low input dairy systems to optimise competitiveness while:
 - Maximising potential of these systems to deliver environmental goods and biodiversity
 - Optimising economic, agronomic and nutritional advantages for the development of innovative and sustainable organic and low input dairy systems and supply chains

Role of SOLID

- **Actively involve stakeholders** (organic and low input dairy farmers, farmer groups, advisors, processors) in a co-ordinated approach – a participatory approach
- **Quantify advantages of genotypes** “adapted to organic and low input dairy production systems”
- **Novel and sustainable feed resources and decision support model** to optimise management of on-farm feed
- **A knowledge platform** to access **environmental sustainability**

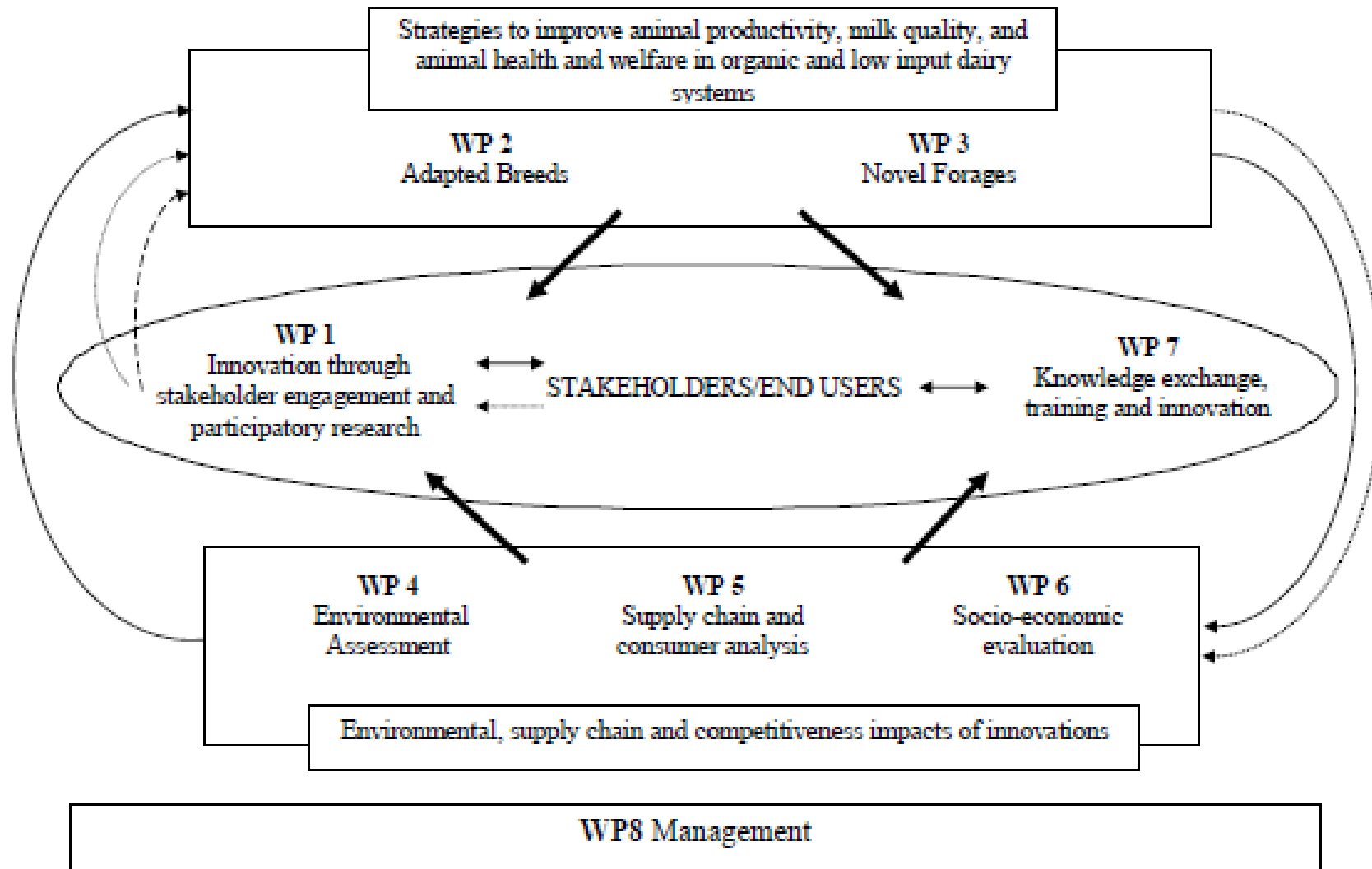


Role of SOLID

- **Identify** the broad range of **expectations** of low-input and organic dairy farming and food systems
- **Evaluate** the **competitiveness** of existing organic and low input dairy farms and novel strategies developed
- **Disseminate knowledge to key stakeholders** through a participatory framework



Role of SOLID



Structure

- **WP1** – Innovation through stakeholder engagement and participatory research (Susanne Padel)
- **WP2** – Adapted breeds (Werner Zollitsch)
- **WP3** – Novel feeds and decision support models (Marketta Rinne)
- **WP4** – Environmental assessment (John Hermansen)
- **WP5** – Supply chain and consumer analysis (Raffale Zanolli)
- **WP6** – Socio-economic evaluation (Ludwig Lauwers)
- **WP7** – Knowledge exchange, training and innovation (Niels Halberg and Cled Thomas)
- **WP8** – Management



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